Teachers of the Vernacular Branch of the Education Department.

420. **MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Director of Public Instruction has issued final orders deciding the rank of the teachers of the Vernacular branch of the Education Department, and, if so, the date from which they are being given effect to?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the negative.

Status of the staff for the Oriental Languages in the Arts College.

421. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state why, in His Highness the Maha Raja's College of Arts, the Oriental languages are treated differently from other subjects of study in respect of the designation, pay and status of the members of the staff teaching those languages?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): From the circumstance that one Professorship had to be split into two. It was also considered that a pay of Rs. 250 was sufficient for the officers who were entrusted with the duties of the bifurcated post.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know why the professorship was split into two?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Because there was no single man who could take up the professorship at the time.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I take it that no man was available for the professorship?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, at that time.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is there any person available now?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Director of Public Instruction must make enquiries.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Did the Government call for applications at that time for competent men before the professorship was abolished?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, the Government did not call for applications.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know the qualification of the person who will be made to fill the post of the professor?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I wish to know how it is a supplementary question.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): In answer to my question it is stated that one professorship is split up into two. I want to know why it has been done.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That has been answered.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): The answer is that no person was available. So, I wish to know what the qualifications of that person were.

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Of course, the professorship is of Sanskrit and the oriental languages. The man who is appointed to that professorship must be a man having emifience in both Sanskrit and the oriental languages.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Am I to take it that there was no person available at that time who was proficient in Sanskrit and the oriental languages?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I did not say proficient men but I said men having eminence. I do not think there was any one who possessed eminence in the two languages.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I wish to know whether the Government made enquiries to know whether there was anyone possessing the necessary qualifications for the post?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I may say at the time when this arrangement was made, the tutors who are now lecturers in the college were also consulted.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Was it thought that would be enough if only tutors were put in charge of the subjects?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It was thought this arrangement will be satisfactory.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Does the member mean to say that it was not on account of the non-availability of a person for the post that a Professor was not appointed?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The non-availability of a person with intellectual eminence.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): My question with regard to availability is not limited to the College Staff alone.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot take up all the old papers and say what happened 10 or 15 years ago.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): In the answer it is stated that it was considered that a pay of Rs. 250 was sufficient for the officers who were entrusted with the duty of the bifurcated post. I wish to know why it was thought that that rate of pay was sufficient for the officers?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say and I claim notice.

PRESIDENT: It is purely a matter of opinion which you are not entitled to ask.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): The reason given in the answer is that "It was also considered that a pay of Rs. 250 was sufficient for the officers who were entrusted with the duties of the bifurcated post."

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is a statement of fact.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I want to know the reason.

PRESIDENT: I have ruled that it is an opinion and you cannot proceed.

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MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I wish to know whether Rs. 250 was thought sufficient considering the quality and nature of the work to be done by these officers.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Consistent with the ruling of the President, I do not think I can answer it.

PRESIDENT: Again you are asking for an opinion.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): It is not a matter of opinion.

PRESIDENT: You need not answer that question.

Departmental Examination in the Medical Department.

422. MR. V. J. OOMMEN (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a G. O. to the effect that the L. C. P. & S. and L. M. P. diploma holders will have to pass a departmental examination before they are confirmed; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether appointments were made against this circular, and, if so, why?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this question does not arise.

Lalam-Kadutturutti Road.

423. MR. A. C. KURIAKOSE (*Minachil cum Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the present condition of the Lalam-Kadutturutti road is undesirable?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): It is reported that the road is not a metalled road and that, in the rainy season, portions of it get slushy.

The Lalam Hospital.

424. MR. A. C. KURIAKOSE (*Minachil cum Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that accommodation and facilities for the treatment of in-patients in the Lalam Hospital are absolutely insufficient;

(*b*) whether they have come to any decision as regards the representations made by the representatives of the people for opening an operation theatre in this hospital;

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, what that decision is; and

(*d*) whether they are not aware that the people are much aggrieved at the Government disregarding their prayer for the entertainment of a lady Assistant Medical Officer in the Lalam Hospital?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) and (*c*) There is already a room for conducting surgical operations. No further action is considered necessary at present.

(*d*) The question will be considered when more qualified women doctors and trained nurses become available.

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